

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 04853 061956Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
AID-05 /084 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7859
INFO PANCANAL
USSOUTHCOM
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS PANAMA 04853

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PN
SUBJECT: ARIAS ON THE MOVE

REF: PANAMA 4719

1. THE PANAMENISTA PARTY HAS ANNOUNCED THE SCHEDULE FOR A JULY TOUR OF THE COUNTRY BY ITS PRESIDENT, ARNULFO ARIAS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF PANAMA, IN WHICH HE WILL CARRY THE BANNER OF "DEMOCRATIC REFORMS" TO THE PEOPLE. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY LEADERS OF OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES, MINUS (AT LEAST AT THE OUTSET) OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY. ARIAS' SOJOURN HAS BEEN MENTIONED IN VERY VAGUE TERMS BY THE LOCAL MEDIA, BUT HIS ACTUAL ITINERARY HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED.

2. ARIAS' SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

--THE WEEK-END OF JULY 7: A RALLY IN LA CHORRERA (A CITY WEST OF PANAMA CITY, AND A TOUR THROUGH WESTERN PANAMA PROVINCE AND COCLE PROVINCE, INCLUDING STOPS AT MANY SMALL TOWNS;
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--JULY 15-16: A VISIT TO THE PROVINCES OF HERRERA AND LOS SANTOS;

--JULY 21: IN COLON

--JULY 22-23: A TOUR OF VERAGUAS PROVINCE

--JULY 28-30: A TOUR THROUGH CHIRIQUI PROVINCE, INCLUDING
A RALLY IN THE CITY OF DAVID.

3. GENERAL TORRIJOS IS IN THE MIDST OF A "FACT-FINDING
AND PROBLEM-SOLVING" NATIONWIDE TOUR. ARIAS' JAUNT AND
THE KIND OF RECEPTION HE ENCOUNTERS MAY PROVIDE SOME
KIND OF COMPARISON BETWEEN THE POWERS-THAT-BE AND THE
OPPOSITION PARTIES. JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINT, PN, (ARIAS, ARNULFO)
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